acquisition of 10 medium capacity long-range (A-340-300) and 18 small Capacity short-range (B-737-800) aircraft at an estimated cost of Rs. 10,589 crores. The Project Report relating to this proposal has not yet been received by the Government.

Accidents involving private airlines

1414. SHRI G.K. VASAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of accidents involving aircrafts run by private operations; and

(b) the action taken against such operators for not taking safety measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) There had been 11 accidents to Indian Civil Registered Aircraft belonging to private operators from 01.01.2001 to 30.11.2003.

(b) In order to enhance the safety standard, corrective action, as deemed appropriate, on the recommendations emanting from investigation of accidents are taken on a continuous basis.

Phasing out of Aircrafts with AI

1415. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the present number of aircrafts available with Air India;

(b) how many are proposed to be phased out and how many are likely to be acquired;

(c) what is the total cost involved in the phasing out and the acquisition; and

(d) by when the process is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) 31.

(b) to (d) The Board of Directors of Air India in its meeting held on

8.11.2003 approved the proposal for acquisition of 10 medium capacity long-range (A-340-300) and 18 small capacity short-range (B-737-800) aircraft at an estimated cost of Rs. 10,589 crores. With this acquisition Air India will phase out the entire fleet of B747-200 and the B747-300 Combi aircraft and some of its leased B747-400/A310-300 aircraft. Currently Air India is in the process of phasing out one B747-200 aircraft by selling the engines and rotables separately. The Project Report relating to this proposal has not yet been received by the Government. No firm target date for completion of the phasing/ acquisition can be indicated at this stage as the proposal has to go through the laid down procedures for public investment.

Performance of Airports in Southern States

1416. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the airports in Southern States of the country are runing in losses;

(b) if so, airport-wise and accumulated losses of each of these airports as on date;

(c) what is the position of Port Blair Airport in this regard;

(d) what are reasons for such losses; and

(e) what efforts Government have made to increase the volume of air traffic at these airports and revive them within a time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Yes, Sir. A total of 16 airports in Southern States of the countray are running in losses.

(b) and (c) Approximate accumulated losses of the 16 airports, airport-wise are Rs. 8.24 crore at Port Blair in Andaman & Nicobar; Rs. 1.43 crore at Rajamundry, Rs. 8.76 crore at Tirupati, Rs. 7.67 crore at Vijayawada & Rs. 9.84 crore at Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh; Rs. 1.11 crore at Hubli, Rs. 1.10 crore at Mangalore & Rs. 6.42 crore at Belgaum in Karnataka; Rs. 3.73 crore at Trivandrum in Kerala; Rs. 5.30 crore at Agatti in Lakshadweep Islands; Rs. 0.75 crore at Pondicherry; Rs. 9.92 crore at Coimbatore, Rs. 12.34 crore at Madurai, Rs. 1.00